(c) whether representations have been received for the stoppage of passenger trains at Samalkot station; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b). To link main line trains a pair of additional passenger train has been introduced w.e.f. 9.10.1991.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Provision of stoppage of additional trains at Samalkot station has not been found justified.

Setting up of Research Centres

3006. KUMARI UMA BHARTI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to the reply given on August 26,1991 to Unstarred Question No. 4349 regarding availability of Medicinal Plants in Madhya Pradesh and State the details of the criteria followed or proposed to be followed in according priorities for opening of research centres?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA) : The general criteria followed in according priorities to the proposal for opening of research Centres are National priorities, diseases on which Ayurveda can provide better treatment, quality control of drugs and availability of funds subject to approval of Scientific Advisory Committee, Finance Committee and Governing Body.

[*Translation*]

Heart Patients Cases

3007. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of heart patients is on the rise; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to the heart diseases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA) : (a) and (b). Though there is no authenticated data available in this regard, a larger number of cases of heart disease are reported to be seen by the clinicians.

The Government has launched a Cardiovascular diseases programme for prevention and control of Rheumatic Fever/Rheumatic Heart Diseases.

Extensive health education campaign is also being mad to create public awareness about the heart ailments.

Pharmacy Colleges in Haryana

3008. SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of recognised pharmacy colleges in Haryana and the mode of admission in these colleges;

(b) whether there are hostel facilities in these colleges and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether seats are reserved for scheduled castes students in these Pharmacy colleges and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOUCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (c). Six recognised institutions in Haryana conduct Diploma courses in Pharmacy where admissions are made on the basis of merit and reservation for Scheduled Castes

students is available. Hostel facilities are available in all the institutions except in Hindu College of Pharmacy, Sonepat.

[*English*]

Rail Fare Concession to Handcapped Persons

3009. SHRI C.P. MUDALAGIRIYAPPA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether rail fare concession given to the handicapped persons has been with drawn if they travel without escorts;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government extend this concession irrespective of escorts; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b). Concession is admissible to the orthopaedically handicapped persons who cannot travel without the assistance of an escorts. No change has been made in the conditions applicable to this concession in the recent past.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The concession is intended to help those orthopaedically handicapped persons who cannot travel without the assistance of an escort. The escort is also entitled to the same concession.

Madras Rapid Transport System

3010. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the land for construction of the Madras Rapid Transport System has yet to be handed over by the Government of Tamil Nadu; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the steps being taken for its acquisition?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b). Land from Km 7.15 to Km 7.5 and from Km 8.0 to Km 8.85 of the project alignment is yet to be handed over by the State Government. The issue has been taken up with the State Government at the highest level.

Direct Flight between Jammu and Leh

3011. DR. C. SILVERA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines has introduced a direct flight between Jammu and Leh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Indian Airlines proposes to connect other similar remote areas through its flights; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). Indian Airlines has introduced a thrice weekly B-737 service between Jammu and Leh w.e.f. 1.11.91.

(c) and (d) Indian Airlines is already operating to remote areas in the country where adequate infrastructural facilities and traffic potential exist. There is no proposal at present to introduce its service to other new stations.